

## Praying without Playing

Part 13: Kingdom Manifesto

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<sup>5</sup> “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>7</sup> “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. <sup>8</sup> Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.” Matthew 6:5-8

### How to Pray like You Mean It:

#### 1. Pray with an Honest Heart (Image: Garden)

*And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.* vs. 5

*And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words* vs. 7

#### Characteristics of Unhealthy Prayer:

- A) Ritualistic
- B) Insincere
- C) Routine
- D) Long
- E) Repetitive

## **2. Pray with a Humble Heart (Image: Throne)**

*But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.* vs. 6

- A) Prayer is not to Showcase our Spirituality to Others
- B) Prayer is not to Prove our Spirituality to God
- C) Prayer is to Grow our Spirituality by Learning God's Heart

## **3. Pray with a Confident Heart (Image: Cross)**

*Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.* vs. 8

- A) Two Dangerous Misunderstanding of Prayer:
  - 1) Overplaying Prayer as an Idolatrous Channel
  - 2) Underplaying Prayer as Vain Repetition
- B) Because God Knows what I need, I Pray in order to:
  - 1) Receive from His Gracious Hand
  - 2) Learn from His Eternal Perspective